Then They Approached One Another, Blaming Each Other

After every defeat the Sahawat murtaddin receive from the Nusayri army, and after it seizes any piece of land from those murtaddin, the Nusayri army requests a time-out, to take a break from fighting for some time in order to secure the areas over which they took control and to rearrange their ranks for a new advance. And so they impose a truce, and they specify its time and place. On the other hand, the Sahawat murtaddin take it as if it is a victory from Allah and a clear conquest, and they approve it and abide by its conditions, while at the same time, they curse truces with the Nusayris and anyone who agrees on making them!

Each time, the loser murtadd Sahawat leaders give their foolish followers weak justifications they invent to justify their approval of the truces, and they claim benefits from the long rest periods they give during these agreements. These benefits include securing the areas and hoping to accept new fighters into the ranks of their factions and train them, and other similar lies that are proven false as soon as the Nusayri army start its new campaign. It is quickly discovered that Sahawat murtaddin have not prepared anything worth mentioning to repel the Nusayris, and then, shortly after, the areas fall and the locals, who are repeatedly deceived by their traps and false promises, are displaced. Then, the only thing left for these factions is blaming each other for what happened and threatening each other after the end of the Nusayri army campaign on them.

Whoever reflects on their situation will find that among the most important reasons for their defeat is their spending time during the period of the truce with their common enemy, disputing over territory, influence, border crossings, and wealth, and creating conspiracies against each other, and preparing their weapons to fight each other. So, if the Nusayri campaign was delayed, they fight each other, resulting in some factions breaking apart and others becoming stronger. This also results in changes to the map of influence and control over areas, and therefore, the Turkish support also changes, where it focuses toward the stronger and more influential factions among others. Meanwhile, the Nusayris prepare for their next campaign patiently, without any disturbance from the Sahawat. And after their preparations are done, they advance on the land, while their airplanes proceed them in the air. They then find scattered factions and exhausted fighters who suffer from lack of weapons, ammunition, and support. And shortly after, the Nusayris finish the battle by imposing their control over the areas and forcing new truces on the ground.

We have seen in the recent Nusayri army campaign, during which they were able to take over the remainder of the Hama countryside and advance towards many areas of the southern Idlib countryside, the rise of complaints by certain factions against other factions regarding the lack of support or the use of heavy weapons in the confrontation against the Nusayris. The reason for that is those factions considering the others a more dangerous enemy than the Nusayri army. Thus, none of them wants to have all their forces involved in fierce battles against the Nusayris, where the matter might result in weakening them and enabling other factions to finish them off and eradicating them, or at least reducing their presence on the ground. An example is the relationship between the murtaddin of "Hay'at Tahrir ash-Sham" and their brethren in riddah from the National Front and their allies from the factions of the "National Army". They all compete for sources of trade with Turkey and the Nusayris and as the representative of the opposition in future negotiations with the Nusayris and Russians. They wish for these negotiations to start soon, when their advance will stop until the line of Astana and Sochi, which the Turkish taghut, its sponsor, calls his Russian partners to abide by it.

Thus, the crying of these factions against each other regarding the fall of areas recently, is increasing today. They exchange accusations of treason and handing over the areas, and they threaten each other to escalate the conflict inside Idlib and to abandon the frontlines against the Nusayris so they can be fully prepared to settle old business between them, even if that leads to the fall of these frontlines without a fight, and even if the Nusayri army takes over what is left of the areas. They accept a Nusayri army takeover instead of having the areas fall in the hands of their opponents and competitors. We have seen that previously in Aleppo, the Damascus countryside, and Dar'a, where bloody confrontations took place between these factions on the ground until they fought over the green busses that shuttled them from areas they handed over to the Nusayris yesterday and moved to areas which they are going to hand over to the same people today.

Those murtaddin claimed that their war against the Islamic State and its soldiers had religious and ideological foundations. They accused its soldiers of being the reason behind the scattering of their ranks and preventing them from fighting the Nusayris. The reality is that fighting the Islamic State was the only reason for their unity and for the postponing of the fight among themselves. The field of Sham has not witnessed real alliances between the Sahawat except when fighting against the muwahhidin, because those funding the operation rooms compelled them to abandon disagreements to become stronger when facing the Islamic State. However, after they finished fighting it, they returned to their old disagreements, conflicts over money and influence, and a war among themselves that does stop until they got kicked out of the land by the Nusayris, to find another land in which they continue their struggle.

The goal of the murtadd Sahawat in Sham today is to have the Nusayris and Russians accept negotiating with them, and they hope that the Iranians and Turks will help them to achieve that. This matter will increase the level of internal conflict among themselves, so that winner receives the lion's share when the time of partnering with the Nusayri regime will come, as they hope.

We ask Allah to foil all their goals and to help us to repel their tricks and remove their evil, for He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing.